

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone) SECURITY INFORMATION REPORT NO. 25X1A

TOPIC Soviet Troops in Leisnig

EVALUATION 25X1X PLACE OBTAINED 25X1C

DATE OF CONTENT late November to 31 December 1951

DATE OBTAINED 31 January 1952

REFERENCES 25X1A 25X1C

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NONE)

REMARKS

REFERENCE COPY

DO NOT CIRCULATE

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1. Between 22 and 28 December 1951, a daily average of 20 soldiers, including a senior lieutenant with tank insignia, was observed receiving training in firing with submachine guns in the Busche Kaserne on Golditzerstrasse, Leisnig (N 52/K 69), while 16 soldiers received theoretical instruction and 60 soldiers fell in for an inspection of articles of clothing. On 24 December, SP gun No 055 was seen leaving the installation toward Broesen and returning about one hour later.
2. Between 17 and 21 December, the Friedrich August Kaserne on Golditzerstrasse quartered troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. Groups of up to 40 soldiers each were seen undergoing inspections of items of equipment, receiving small-arms drill, and marching out toward the railroad station. Two officers were seen giving 30 soldiers theoretical instruction on two rocket launchers in the area west of the installation beside the road to Hohenchonsmuehle, on 21 December. A German working in the installation said that the daily routine included small arms drill, firing practice, physical training, hand-grenade practice, classroom instruction, technical service and driver instruction from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 4:30 p.m. The driver instruction was given by 8 to 12 officers to 30 to 40 men. *
3. In late November, source learned from an employee in the former hospital that the installation housed the office of a commandant with his staff (sic), an officers' club and mess, a laundry, a senior lieutenant (MGB) with his family and other officers. **
4. Trucks and sedan with 27 officers and 8 men were seen at the bridge across the Mulde River northwest of Podelwitz, 6 km west of Leisnig, on 25 December, under the supervision of a colonel, who wore red-bordered black collar patches, the soldiers determined the depth of the river, while riding a pneumatic raft, and staked off a road, 6 to 7 meters wide, beside the river west of the bridge. They also erected two wooden signboards bearing the Russian inscriptions Brod and Glubina 07. Source recognized a driver from the barracks installation in Leisnig among the soldiers. *
5. A unit of 19 officers and 150 to 170 men, carrying rucksacks and submachine guns, were seen marching through Podelwitz, crossing the Mulde River bridge and proceeding to a forest farther to the north where, according to local residents, small groups of soldiers used to receive field training. The unit was commanded by a major who wore red-bordered black epaulets.

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CLASSIFICATION

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No Change in Class. ☐

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* Comment. The report indicates that the 64th Gds Hvy Tank SP Regt and the unidentified guards rocket launcher battalion, both of the 8th Gds Mecz Div, are still stationed in Leisnig but fails to contain any clues as to the whereabouts of the 358th Gds AAA Regt which is also carried at the post. See The inscriptions on the wooden signboards, mentioned in paragraph 4 of the present report, indicate that a ford 70 cm deep was staked off at the training site near Fodelwitz.

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** Comment. The occupation of the former hospital is reported for the first time.

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